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VALLEY STAR
Los Angeles Valley College

Vol. 43, No.5 | *Thursday, October 17, 1991* | *Van Nuys, California*

Anonymous caller tips off bomb threat

By ANNA L.VILLA
News Editor

A bomb threat at Valley forced evacuation from the Math Science Building yesterday morning after the campus switchboard operator received a tip from an anonymous caller.

No device was found in the search conducted by campus police and students and faculty were cleared to enter the building.

"We thoroughly searched every room of the building and all the bathrooms and wastebaskets where a device like that is normally hidden," Karl Traber, captain of campus police, said. At this time we know the building is safe and the disruption was minimal," he added.

According to the police report filed by the operator, the call was received at approximately 9:26 a.m. The caller, who identified himself as "Michael," said a bomb was going to go off in the Math Science Building, but hung up before saying when.

"He said he was very upset for all the problems the school had caused him and that he was going to get even. We were going to pay for it," Traber said.

Traber also stated that it was unusual for a caller to indentify himself if there was a serious threat and that he can only speculate that the caller was angry and irrational at the time he placed the call.

A report will be filed with the LAPD so they can keep track of any pattern in this case and a campus officer will be observing people coming in and out of the building for the rest of the day, Traber said.

Christopher D. Sharpe and Raquel Vaccaro also contributed to this story.

'Health Hut' features fitness edibles

By JENNIFER CASE
Editor in chief

Yes, they have bananas.

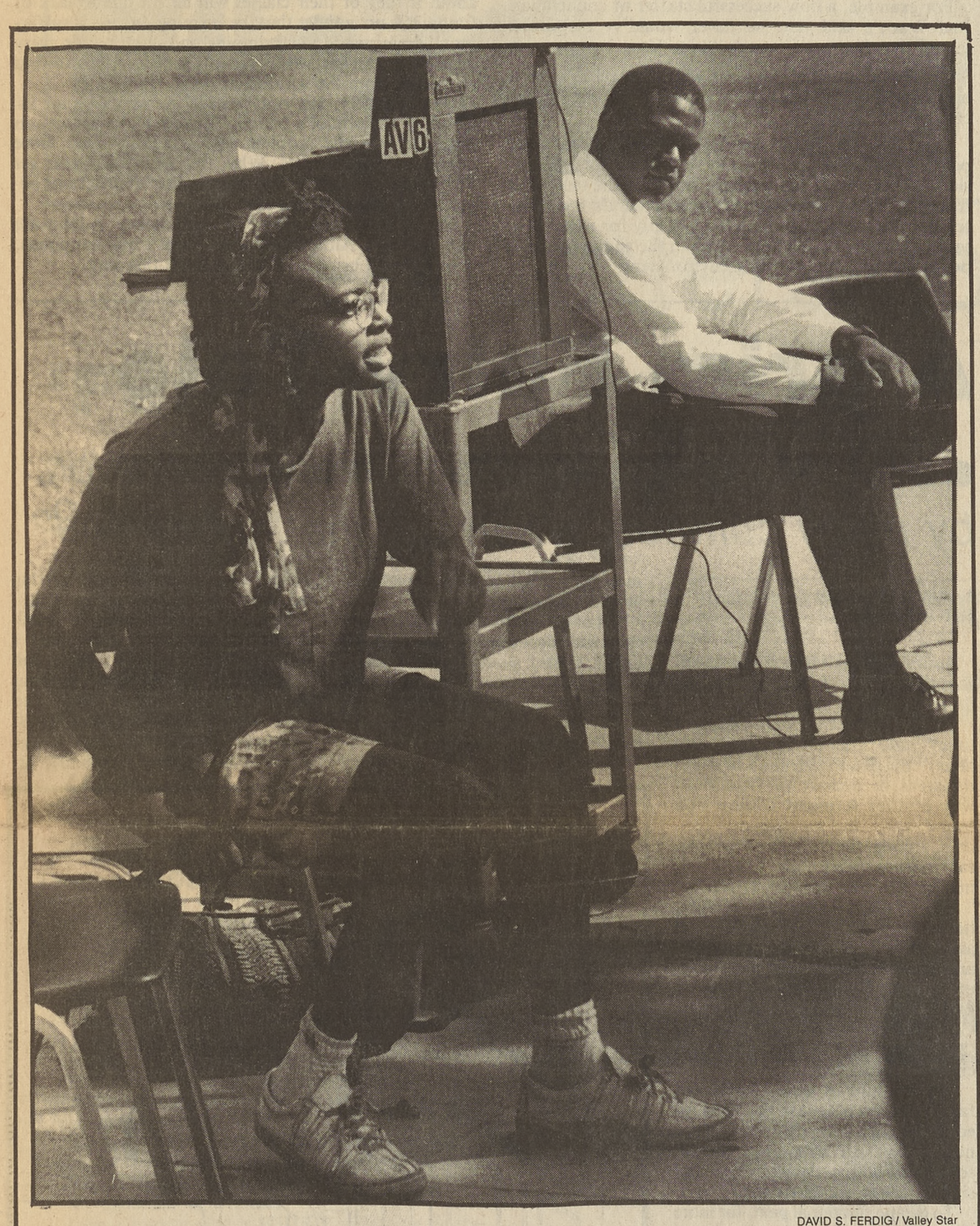
But that's not all they have. They also sell broiled chicken salads and other healthy food at the new "Health Hut" located between the tennis courts and the Life Science building.

The "Health Hut", which opened July 1, features foods high in nutrition, but also sells most of the items sold at other campus food outlets.

Some of the items featured include natural juices blended to order, special health drinks, low fat muffins and cakes. In addition to health snacks, the hut sells a variety of different sandwiches including cucumber, turkey, tuna, and avocado with sprout.

They also added some creative twists to the salads they sell. Their culinary creations include tuna salads, summer salads with Jicama and fruit, a kiwi and papaya salad, and a Chinese papaya salad.

The health hut is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. monday thru fridays and students bearing a fitness center card recieve a 10 percent discount.



DAVID S. FERDIG / Valley Star

COURT CONTEMPLATION — Colette Griggsby and Shawn Hill initiated the debate concerning the Thomas/Hill controversy, Tuesday in Monarch Square.

Students clash on issues

By ANNA L. VILLA
News Editor

A crowd of about 100 students were drawn to a corner of Monarch Square Tuesday morning, to witness the verbal dual initiated by members of the Black Student Union concerning the Thomas/Hill controversy.

Although Judge Clarence Thomas was granted a seat on the Supreme Court later that day, BSU members held an open debate to address the issues spawned by the sexual harassment allegations that had forced a roadblock to Thomas' confirmation.

Many students said they believed Thomas was qualified to retain a seat on the court but they also believed much of what Professor Anita Faye Hill alleged was true.

"Sexual harrassment is a male and female issue, maybe she [Hill] should have said something earlier, but women need to start saying is, 'I don't like this kind of treatment' — women, it is up to you to tell that man you are offended, it is up to you to say, 'this bothers me'," Colette Griggsby, BSU member, said.

Others pointed out that much of this issue was politically motivated to keep Thomas from gaining a seat on the court.

Stacey Scalise, president of GALA, was in opposition to Thomas' confirmation, "What concerns me is that another conservative, whose viewpoint [on issues such as abortion] that I'm not sure about is gonna get on the Supreme Court and that threatens me, that scares me."

"And as far as the sexual harrassment goes," Scalise continued, "you cannot forget that sexual harassment is not about sex, it is about power, and you need to remember that when you are addressing the issue — it is about a man dominating a woman and putting her in a submissive role — it's about power."

The debate continued for two hours during which other issues such as racism.

Loose Leaves

Education In America

Part Three of a Continuing Series

JUNE 1991 The National Education Association, the American Association of University Professors, and the American Federation of Teachers have joined forces to try to prevent any further cuts in the funding of higher education. The three organizations issued a joint statement which noted, among other things, that federal support for higher education declined during the 1980s by 24 percent and in 1991, more than 30 states cut higher education budgets mid-year.

JULY 1991 Los Angeles Community College District trustee Lindsay Conner proposed shutting down cafeteria food service at LACCD community colleges. Connor stated that in 1990 cafeteria services districtwide lost $600,000 and he felt that closing down a losing proposition was preferable to cutting classes.

JULY 1991 The final state budget for this year includes roughly $18.4 billion for elementary and secondary education and roughly $1.6 billion for community colleges.

JULY 1991 Lowell Erickson, the new president at Pierce College, stated that he would not let parcels of the college's land be sold arbitrarily. The college is located on 400-plus acres of prime land space near Warner Center, and development recommendations have already been made for 250 acres of Pierce land currently zoned for agricultural use.

AUGUST 1991 Education officials reacted with shock to a proposal by state lottery officials that would reduce the percentage of lottery money given to schools in California. Lottery officials wanted the extra money to increase the prize pool and defended their position by stating that the concept of lottery money funding education was oversold when presented to California voters.

AUGUST 1991 The Children's Defense Fund in Washington, D.C., released a report which stated that low-paying jobs and lack of education among the Hispanic population in the United States resulted in one-third of Hispanic children being destitute. In California, which houses 34.4 percent of all Hispanics in the U.S., 22.2 percent of all Hispanic children live below the poverty line. The report was written by analyst Leticia Miranda who stated that the children will remain in poverty because their educational backgrounds only qualify them for lower-paying jobs.

Compiled by Julie D. Bailey

—Club News—

Striving for more student participation, a variety of Valley clubs gathered in Monarch Square last week for Club Day.

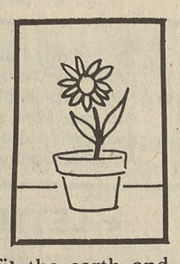
"I've been here for five semsters and it's been the best I've ever seen," Jackie Tozzi, ASU commissioner of public relations said. "The clubs were well organized, they were enthusiastic, and really showed support and motivation in trying to involve students," Tozzi said.

Student turnout was "amazingly good" on both Wednesday and Thursday and student response was very positive, according to Tozzi.

Valley clubs include: M.E.Ch.A., Administration of Justice, Hillel, Tau Alpha Epsilon, Black Student Union, Astronomy, Vietnamese, Filipino and many more. For more information call ASU ext. 361.

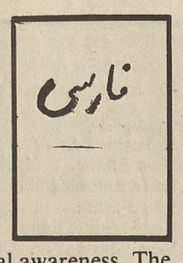
— Compiled by Anna L. Villa

Valley Green



The environmental awareness club organizes programs and events that benefit the earth and educates its members ways in which to help save the planet. Last semester the club sponsored the visit of Jerry Brown, former California governor, who addressed health and environmental issues. Terry Norton presides over the club which meets Wednesdays at noon in room 109 of the Math and Science building.

Farsi Club



Formed just last semester, the Persian club focuses on promoting cultural awareness. The club welcomes "people of all creeds" and offers tutoring and study groups and extends their help to new students from Iran and Afghanistan who may have difficulty speaking English or in choosing classes. Meeting date and times were not posted at time of publication but further information can be obtained through ASU.

Broadcasting Club

The main focus of the broadcasting club this semester is to involve students. "We want students to know there is a T.V. and a radio station on this campus," Carolyn Kuneff, broadcast member said. The club is currently taking a survey of what kind of music students want to hear and are striving to raise school spirit. The club meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon in Humanities 112.

GALA

Gay and Lesbian Alliance focuses on creating awareness about issues facing the gay community. The club, presided by Stacey Scalise, meets Fridays at 12:30 p.m. in Humanities 110. The club welcomes people who are in favor of gay and lesbian rights. For more information on issues contactthe commissioner of gay and lesbian concerns in the ASU office.

EDITORIAL:

Don't 'close your doors'

When Chancellor Phelps told Los Angeles Community Colleges in the district to close their doors, he turned his back on countless students who will count on community colleges to continue their education.

At the last Valley Faculty Senate Meeting, Phelps was invited to discuss the senate's financial concerns. During the meeting, he told the senate to "close your doors" to students that the budget cannot serve.

Closing a community college campus to some or any students defeats the goal and purpose of all community colleges. One of the biggest functions of community colleges is to provide a "second chance" at education to students who might not have otherwise continued school.

For example, a now successful staffer of councilman Joel Wach's said that he never would've continued school if Valley wasn't accessible to him.

This is only one example of why Chancellor Phelps needs to find another way to work around the budget constraints.

One of the problems with implementing a closed door policy is that there is a snag in the system. The admissions office admits the student, and then the teacher is forced to close THEIR door in the student's face. The teacher unwillingly becomes the bad guy for wanting to teach an average size class, which in the end produces a better learning and teaching environment.

Both foreign students and new students on financial aid would also encounter problems with being admitted into Valley, but not into their classes. In order to keep financial aid or a visa, most programs require the student to have a certain amount of units, and if they don't, they are dropped.

If we enroll a student to our campus, but shut him out of the classes themselves, is it fair for the student to be shafted twice?

No, it isn't. It's also not fair for administrators to play harbinger of doom to students and faculty. In fact, the whole situation is ridiculous. Phelps said we should focus on quality education, but everyone is so worried about getting the money we need, that education itself isn't being given top priority. With teachers worrying about if they or their classes will be cut due to lack of funds, it is no wonder that the learning process is suffering. Administration is scrimping and scraping for every penny they can get, while students are just trying to find an escape from the whole mess.

Unfortunalely, the only escape seems to be an increase in the school's budget. However, our education president said the problem with education isn't more money, it's the parents. Why, then, can't students get the classes they need? Why are vocational programs being cut? Because of the parents?

No. The real answer here IS more money. A lot more money. Now. Although money doesn't buy happiness, it sure would bring a lot more smiles this way.

Judging Thomas

By JAE LEVINE WEISS
Staff Writer

Someone is lying. Who are you going to believe? We may never know the truth. One thing is certain. The future of the country, for even more compelling reasons than before, is dependant on whether or not Judge Thomas is confirmed to the Supreme Court. Women and minorities may have far more to fear if the committee disregards Professor Anita Hill's charges of sexual harassment. The attitude with which society views cases of sexual harassment, as well as other non-witnessed crimes, is under scrutiny as well. Even before any compelling evidence confirms or denies Thomas' accountability, the rousing cheers each time Thomas enters or exits the room combined with the victim blaming comments I have witnessed on and off the Senate floor, validates my worst fears about the fate of victims who face their accused.

I can not imagine what would motivate a woman like Professor Hill to commit perjury. It is hard to fathom why she would demolish her hard earned reputation and career by making slanderous accusations against a Supreme Court Justice nominee while the entire country sits as judge and jury. Why would Hill lie? Thomas' motivation for denial, on the other hand is obvious.

Hill has presented compelling evidence, voluntarily passed a lie detector test, and has credible character witnesses who appear to have no reason to jeopardize their own reputations in order to corroborate her story.

Thomas seems less than prepared to respond with reasonable explanations. He parades witnesses who can honestly attest to his good character. All swear under oath that the alleged incidents could not possibly have taken place. As with all such incidents, only two people really know what went on behind closed doors. As with all defendants of such charges, Thomas angrily bemoans his smeared reputation. He uncategorically denies the charges he didn't even have the courage to view. "I didn't have to see," he testified. Wouldn't you have wanted to know what you were defending yourself against?

Thomas planted more than a seed of doubt in my mind about his credibility prior to these allegations. I had difficulty imagining that a Judge who has his eye on the highest court in the land had formed no opinion on Roe vs Wade; the most controversial issue currently debated. His evasiveness prior to the Hill scandal had already established uneasiness about Thomas' integrity. I have even greater difficulty with the concept of a Supreme Court nominee so full of righteous indignation that even when his entire life was at stake, he refused to keep himself as fully informed as possible about the words and actions of his adversary. Is this the process by which he intends to make Supreme Court decisions?

Thomas compared the proceedings to a "lynching," implying that the accusations were based on crude racial stereotypes about sex. "Lynching" usually involved vigilante hangings of black men based on random accusations of sexual impropriety against a white women. Lynching is an expression of racism and mob violence in its most repulsive form. For Thomas to use this term in reference to a reluctant accusation of harassment which was made by a black woman is an insulting minimization of that heinous crime.

A more accurate stereotype perpetuated here is that of a woman who remains on jobs where harassment exists because she has no choice but to submit to it. If a Professor with impeccable credentials, poise under fire, and a law degree from Yale is not believed, how many less skilled, less eloquent, less educated women believe they have options? How many black men are forced to be subjected to continual humiliation and degradation on the job without daring to complain? Thomas, with his arrogant attitude about affirmative action, is certainly the last person to cry racism.

Thomas repetitively responded that his family has already been through enough. True. This whole situation has become a travesty that can only injure all involved. "Look what her accusations are doing to me!" is the typical response of most perpetrators. I am sure that Professor Hill and her family has been through more than enough. She appears to have everything to lose and absolutely nothing to gain.

With justification, Thomas admits that the past few weeks have turned him into an angry and bitter man. He claims to have "died" over the last two weeks. He says that the pursuit of the Supreme Court Seat has not been "worth it", but he is determined now to win his appointment in order to clear his good name.

Under the circumstances, even if Thomas is innocent, is this publicly declared state of mind appropriate for a Supreme Court justice? It is a terrible thing that the grueling confirmation process itself created Thomas' current bitter, angry and vindictive attitude. Considering the gravity of the job, should we knowingly place a man this admittedly traumatized and enraged on the Supreme Court? Is this most influential and pivotal appointment going to be given out as an apology for playing too rough, whether he deserves the seat or not? If any cases which involves unwitnessed allegations were to come before the Supreme Court while Judge Thomas sits on the bench, will Thomas' bias tempt him to blame the victim?

By Thursday, when this article runs, the fate of the nation will have been decided based upon the determination of a handful of men who represent us all. Who will they choose to believe? The outcome, either way, will have ramifications beyond the bench of the Supreme Court. The way we regard Professor Hill's accusations will determine how safe we are behind our own office desks, how safe we are on public streets, how safe we are in our own beds. Perpetrators have now received dramatic evidence confirming what they have known all along. They can do whatever they want to us, and there will be no price to pay. If you are a victim, are you going to tell? Are you willing to gamble that you'll be believed? What will happen when you tell it to the judge?

On Tuesday, Oct. 15, with a Senate vote of 52 to 48, Judge Clarence Thomas won his confirmation to the Supreme Court. With a life long seat on the bench of the highest court in the land he will make decisions that will affect every American for many years to come. Thomas is now 43 years old.

A grim Fairy Tale

● *Drug abuse is practiced in every generation, by many cultures. When will the legacy end?*

By JUDITH WAXMAN
Staff Writer

Snorting, sniffing, smoking, shooting or swallowing, illegal drugs are a grim fairy tale.

Falling between "once upon a time" and "living happily ever after," the deadly dilemma of drugs threatens to destroy the American way of life. A recent Gallop Poll found drugs the number one concern among the American people, far outdistancing the threat of nuclear war and the fear of AIDS.

But "white girl, rock-candy, horse, fire" and "ice," also known as cocaine, crack, herion, marijuana and amphetamines, were once viewed as being fashionable. "I get no kick from cocaine," songwriter Cole Porter jadedly wrote in the '20s, when High Society embraced chemical dependency.

Yet the lure of quick highs and fast cash are a plague in the '90s. An equal opportunity problem, drugs now affect all economic, racial, social and ethnic classes. Plain and simple, drugs are an escape.

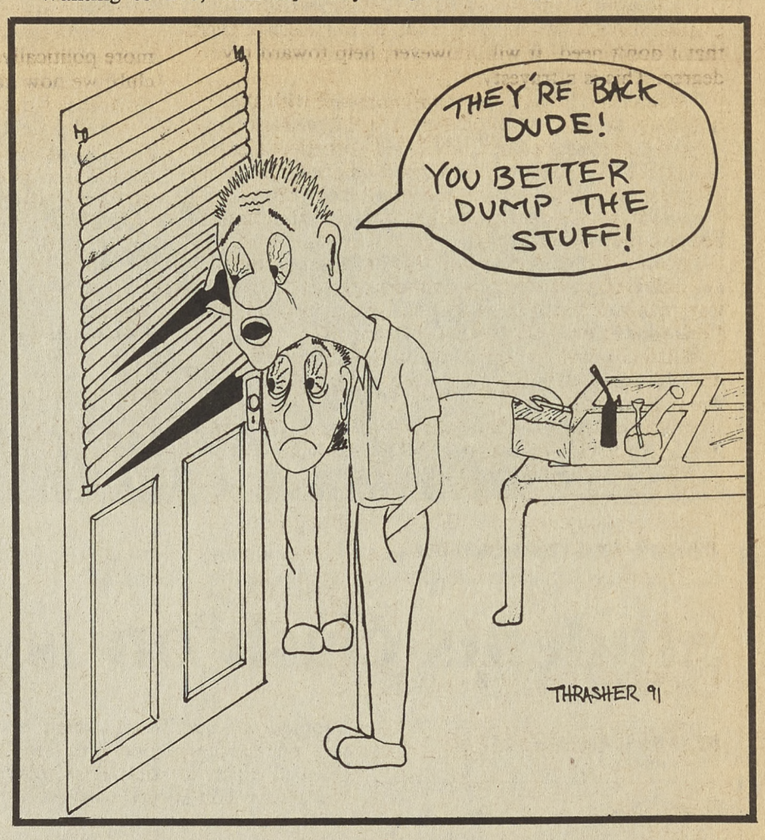
To escape emotional pain, for more than 30 years I used and abused drugs. My drug of choice? Amphetamines. As a young girl, living at home with an emotionally distant mother, I discovered a doctor who prescribed amphetamines, to lose weight, of course. Quickly becoming addicted, a physical and psychological dependency, I used and abused amphetamines to dull my emotional pain, and to feel euphoric. Never admitting drugs were essential to my normal functioning.

Amphetamine addict? Self-destructive? Me? "Denial" was my middle name. I wouldn't admit to something I was ashamed of, even to myself.

For a major portion of my life, drugs were my constant companion, until recently, when I started therapy. I learned I had been trying to emotionally switch off, feeling and thinking, "It doesn't matter," in times of emotional stress. And, at the same time, I took more drugs to numb the pain. I realized, for the first time in my life, what I was doing and didn't want to do it any more as stuffed feelings come back as lethal weapons.

I started to attend a program for chemical dependency. In Valley's health class I studied aging, stress, drugs, and death and dying, asking the instructor about statistics on older drug uses: "There aren't any," she said, "They die."

Wanting to live, with my body rebelling, saying, "Don't send down any more drugs," and my mind telling me I'm *surely* killing myself, that 30 drugged years were long enough, I knew the time had come to stop doing drugs. But as I thought I could only function with drugs, I knew I had to scare myself into it.



About two months later, all of this resulted in a pulsation, a pressure on my left temple every 10 or 15 minutes throughout an entire day, making me think it was a symptom of a stroke, or a sign of a heart attack. I scared myself into quitting on March 1—my last day on drugs.

Now, six months later, I'm still drug-free, amazed at how good I feel, how much energy I have, and how well I can function without drugs. I know I don't need, and have vowed never to take, mind-altering, mood-changing drugs again. For support, I regularly attend recovery meetings. "We're all in the same leaky boat, keeping each other afloat," I said.

As a society, besides treatment, prosecution and prevention, we should have drug education in the classroom, as early as grade school, teaching youngsters the definitive danger of drugs.

From euphoria to paranoia to psychosis, drugs promise escape and deliver death. And death—the Grim Reaper—is the grimmest tale of all.

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Editorial and Advertising Offices
5800 Fulton Ave. Van Nuys, CA. 91401
Phone (818)781-1200, Ext. 275/276
Advertising Ext.239

JENNIFER L. CASE
Editor in Chief

JULIE D. BAILEY
Advertising Director

Represented by CASS
Advertising Service
1800 Sherman Pl.
Evanston, IL. 60201

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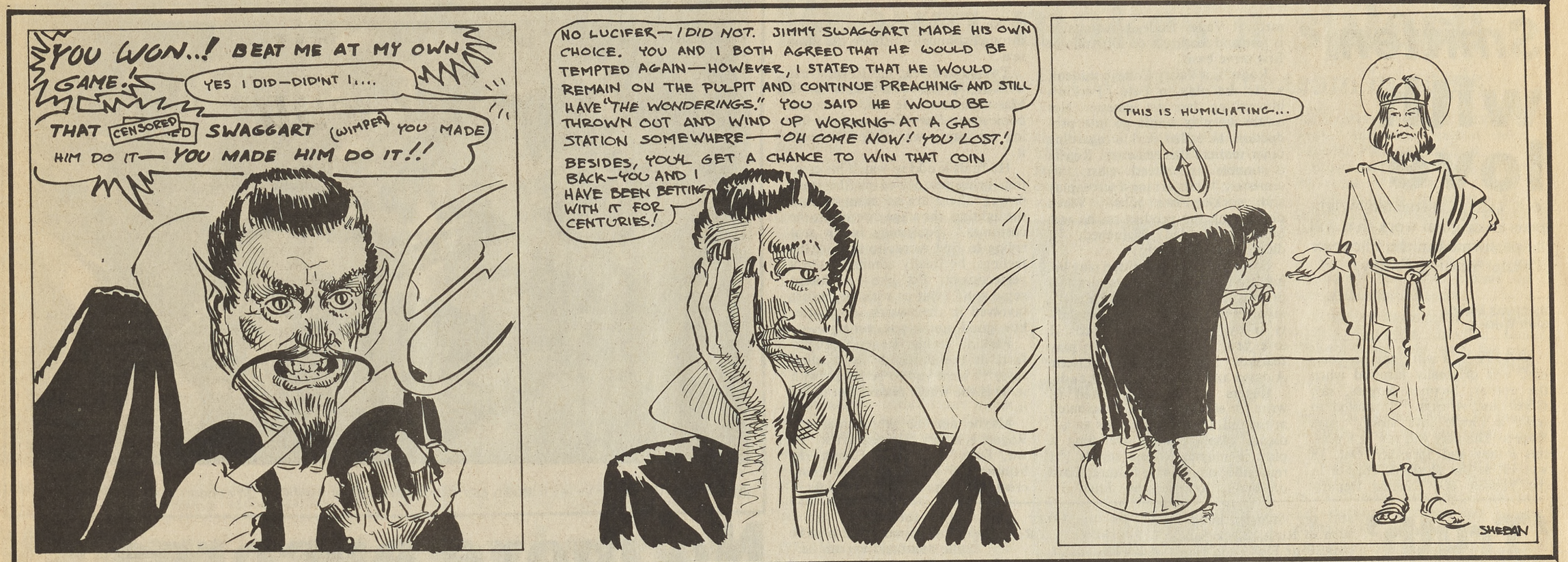
★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★ LETTERS ★

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

The Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or make racial, ethnic or religious denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented to the Valley Star office, Bungalow 25, by Monday for the following Thursday.

Opinion


YOU WON..! BEAT ME AT MY OWN GAME..!
YES I DID—DIDN'T I....
THAT CENSORED SWAGGART (WIMPER) YOU MADE HIM DO IT— YOU MADE HIM DO IT!!
NO LUCIFER—I DID NOT. JIMMY SWAGGART MADE HIS OWN CHOICE. YOU AND I BOTH AGREED THAT HE WOULD BE TEMPTED AGAIN—HOWEVER, I STATED THAT HE WOULD REMAIN ON THE PULPIT AND CONTINUE PREACHING AND STILL HAVE "THE WONDERINGS." YOU SAID HE WOULD BE THROWN OUT AND WIND UP WORKING AT A GAS STATION SOMEWHERE—OH COME NOW! YOU LOST!
BESIDES, YOU'L GET A CHANCE TO WIN THAT COIN BACK—YOU AND I HAVE BEEN BETTING WITH IT FOR CENTURIES!
THIS IS HUMILIATING...
SHEBAN

— Letters to the Editor —

'FED UP — *Fighting Educational Distress Under Politicians'*

Dear Editor:

I am a student who has been attending Valley College at night since the summer of 1987.

Since I've been at Valley the classes I have needed have usually been available. However, This fall I mailed in my registration early and was enrolled in not one of the classes which I requested.

I was 14 of 15 on a waiting list for one of the classes; but I finally had to settle for one elective class that I don't need. It will, however, help toward my degree. This is a travesty.

I would like to say that I am impressed with the quality of educators who I have had the pleasure to have been taught by thus far. What bothers me is the fact that the policy makers who are in charge of funding the school system are not doing their jobs.

I was not able to get the night classes that I needed because they were cut!

For the last four years the state has been taking in an obscene amount of new found money from the lottery, which 34 cents of each dollar was supposed to "enhance" the school system, where is it?

When Governor Deukmejian took office there was an $18 million surplus in the state budget. God bless Jerry Brown!

However, when Deukmejian left office in 1990 we were, I believe, better than $1 billion in debt.

Who is accountable for this?

My education is at stake!

I am a student who is FED UP—Fighting Educational Distress Under Politicians.

Mike Palumbo
Speech/Comm Major

General Motors: *abandoning the Valley*

Dear Editor:

The General Motors Van Nuys plant is due for permanent foreclosure by August 1992. Up to this date GM's Chairman Robert Stampel has not given the plant a new car line.

Considerations to turn the Van Nuys plant into a flex plant, that will build cars based on the economy, was turned down. The economy is still showing that we are in a recession.

The Camaros and Firebirds that are now being assembled at the Van Nuys plant will be built in Canada, which will make them less expensive to build. This is just the beginning of the open trade pack with Canada, Mexico and the United States.

The closure of the Van Nuys plant will create a devastating effect in the economy here in California, let alone the San Fernando Valley. Three to five out of 10 working people have jobs related to the automobile industry. One hundred thousand jobs will be lost not including the automobile part manufacturers and suppliers throughout the Valley, Los Angeles and the state of California.

The students here at Valley College and other schools and universities will be effected one way or another by this plant closure. Crime and drug abuse will rise as well as divorces and not to mention the unemployment rate.

General Motors will not loose a penny by this action. They can simply use this as a tax write off.

Alex Reynoso
concerned student
and auto worker

Editor's Note

We were unable to verify the accuracy of the facts stated in the two letters printed above.

'There will be a homecoming this year'

Dear Editor:

In response to "Homecoming Blues," I would like to say that I truly don't believe the ASU is "selfish," nor do I believe that any club has "horrid work ethic." In fact, the clubs showed incredible school spirit and followed through with all their plans during club day last week.

The ASU has had a more political concentration in the past few years. Our student population has become very aware, and I think LA Valley College is fortunate to have such a student body. With such awareness on campus, the ASU activities have been more politically focused. Instead of having the ski club, we now have Valley Green, and several other clubs that wouldn't have been dreamed of in the past.

I realize that the annual homecoming may have suffered from this shift of priorities. I am sorry that we can't do it all. We are here for the students. Our doors are always open.

And yes, there will be a homecoming this year.

Erica L. Hauck
ASU President

'Thinly disguised apologies'

Dear Editor:

Hi folks! You're doing a great job so far this semester with the following exception noted.

I'm wondering if you can tell me where Mr. Powers was on Club Day? I'm curious about his activities while we demonstrated our "horrid work ethic" by manning our tables in 100 degree heat for two days. Did he help barbecue for hundreds of hungry students? Did he hand out information, lead cheers, or sell the reusable thermal cups which Valley Green has brought to the campus as one of its "paper mache fantasies?"

Or was he busy creating school spirit by issuing more broad, general, put-downs, thinly disguised as apologies?

I've been at Valley long enough to remember a homecoming that ASU put on where not enough students showed up to make the event worth while! ASU has to reflect the priorities of its members.

If Mr. Powers is truly so "sick" about the situation, why doesn't he get a sponsor and start a "Homecoming Club?" Lets see how he does at it. After all, it's always easier to criticize than to create.

Clover Phalen
Valley Green

'Football vs. important issues'

An open letter to Shane Powers:

Dear Shane,

Although we would like to, we're not going to take the time to address the racist rantings of your article of Oct. 3. We would, however, like to comment on your article of Oct. 10. After reading the article it was clear to us and many others that you have no idea what you are talking about.

We attended and helped organize many successful events and programs put on by some of the clubs last semester. Among the programs that we have worked on was the Student Coalition For Peace's presentation of a documentary and panel discussion on the Invasion of Panama and a program entitled "The Effects of War on Human Health." during last semesters Health Fair Expo.

The Health Fair Expo was an excellent example of the hard work and dedication of the Associated Student Union and the clubs on this campus. Most of the clubs participated in such ways as distributing information, inviting health oriented organizations to participate and organizing and presenting educational programs.

If a club event or program failed to gain the support of the student body, we would not blame the ASU. We would blame the club for not creating enough excitement among the students.

You, on the other hand, seem to feel that it is the responsibility of the ASU to stir up school pride for the football team and your "paper mache fantasy" of a homecoming. Most of the clubs on this campus, such as SCFP, Pro-Choice, BSU, MEChA, Valley Green and GALA, to name a few, have no trouble gaining the support of the students on issues of social, cultural, educational and political importance.

Football has no social, cultural, educational or political importance so it is not surprising to us that the football team has trouble exciting the student body about a homecoming when there are the important issues of education about AIDS, the environment, minority rights, world peace and abortion to worry about.

While we would like to go on explaining to you the differences between important, real life issues and an unimportant, mindless game, space restrictions do not allow us to do so. If you ever want to discuss the importance of football vs. the issues mentioned above, please feel free to stop by a meeting of Student Coalition For Peace. We meet every Thursday at noon in Campus Center 215. And although we cannot speak for the other clubs, they would probably extend to you the same invitation.

Sincerely,

Kevin Metz
President SCFP
history major

Doug Bruce
Treasurer SCFP
electronics major

'Put your money where your mouth is'

Dear Editor:

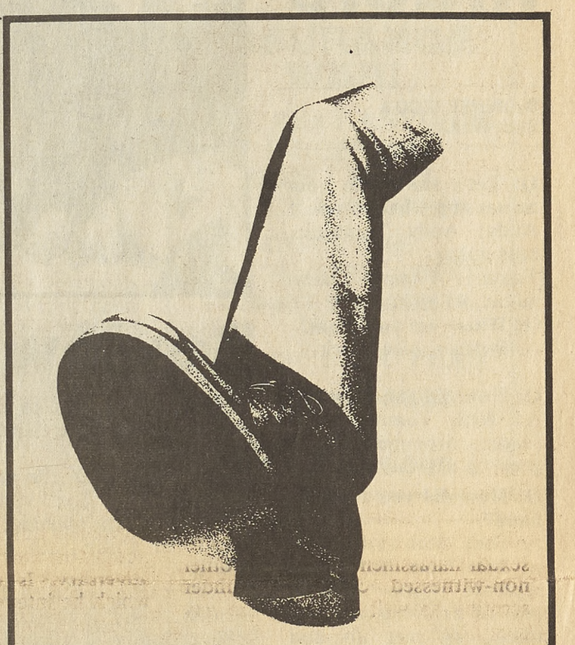
Shane Powers, you are either blind or a baboon, take your pick. Your comments in the Oct. 10 *Valley Star* were slanderous toward the ASU as a whole. By doing this you've antagonized me, as well as criticized me. I've been a part of the ASU for over a year.

I've been Commissioner of Elections, a senator of the Senate, ASU Supreme Court Chief Justice and an officer in a few clubs. The ASU has spirit. Yet the school lacks it. So the ASU is blamed? What have you done to support school spirit? Probably nothing.

If you have a problem with the ASU, talk to them first instead of just attacking them publicly. They are constantly working hard to please everyone and make things work! So why don't you just f*** off, or put your money where your mouth is, Shane.

Get in the ring, so to say, with your slanderous remarks. Or apologize to *every* commissioner, officer, justice and all others associated with the ASU in any way. Including clubs!

Ken Edelberg
Former ASU Justice



ASU officers claim 'armchair critic' lacks intelligence and ethics

Dear Mr. Powers:

I am responding to your sports opinion column not because you got "under my skin," but because you are misinformed and inaccurate about your accusations.

You see, Mr. Powers, it's really easy to be an armchair critic when you lack the ability to be a leader or organizer, always willing to blame someone else, but never really doing anything to help find a solution to the situation.

You present yourself like the great messiah of the football team and Valley's Homecoming yet I don't recall your presence at any of this years ASU meetings. For that matter, with the exception of one opportunity during the past semester you didn't participate or attend any student body functions. If you were really interested in a homecoming, I would assume you would want to be present at ASU meetings.

You are ignorant when you call the ASU selfish and blame them for the apathy of students who don't care to get involved. The same students, who unless told to, do not read your column or this letter when printed.

You make allegations of "horrid work ethics...lack of following through with plans," plans that you call "paper mache fantasies." It seems to me, Mr. Powers, this is your own fantasy. If I am wrong, prove it. Be specific. I would like to see you back up your accusations.

During the 1990-91 school year, the campus clubs presented over 100 different events which covered cultural awareness, sports, politics, etc. The student body participation was minimal. Yet, the clubs continue to present events, regardless of participation.

In regards to the football team, I don't believe they go through "countless conditioning workouts" with the expectation of being rewarded with a dance and a parade. I think they do workouts in order to improve their performances and perfect their skills on the field. I would like to add, there will be a homecoming celebration this year.

I personally believe that your opinion piece is equivalent to trash; but that is your opinion and you are entitled to it. I will suggest that in the future you make an effort to inform yourself about the issues you are planning to voice an opinion on.

One last word, Mike Tyson is not the world's most wonderful human being, granted. However, that doesn't give you the right to use racist remarks such as "monkey," when referring to him (*Star* Oct. 3). Being an editor of the *Valley Star*, I thought, meant having intelligence and ethics, obviously in your case that doesn't hold true.

Jesse Hernandez
ASU Vice President

Rene Chavez
ASU Treasurer

Smitten with love

● A Valley College playwright pens an original work that will be performed in the Shoebox Theater starting Friday.

By CHRIS MAYDA
Staff Writer

SMITTEN, a witty one act comedy, was originally inspired when the author, Stephen Rogers, saw *Ghost* and *Always*. "I wanted to write a simple love story," says Rogers. The play will run at 8 p.m. this Friday and Saturday, Oct. 18 and 19, at the Shoebox Theater in the Theater and Cinema Department at Valley College. Admission is free and seating is on a first come first serve basis.

Roger's, a Valley College student, wrote the play in Pete Parkin's playwriting class last semester. Not aware the play would go into production, he called Parkin regarding other matters this semester. Rogers is unable to attend class this semester, "I am writing a screenplay and working two jobs." When discovering the production he was both elated and frightened, "I didn't sleep that night."

SMITTEN, a well written play being produced off of a first draft, a process Rogers find "pretty scary", involves the conflict of mans inability to say "The three little words...I love you," says Rogers. The play features John Wiltshire, Lisette Aldama and Deborah Renee Lande.

Rogers has always wanted to write for stage or screen. Fascinated at the unfolding of emotions an audience displays while watching a play or movie, Rogers recalls, "I remember one double feature, *Love of Benji*, followed by *Jaws*. I couldn't believe you could go through so much sitting in the same seat."

Twenty-one year old Rogers first writing experience was at seven in Massachusetts. He had a comic book about *Star Wars*, and not liking the way it was done, "rewrote it."

He finds it odd to watch his creation being performed on the stage now. "There are so many things, the lighting, the stage directions, the costumes." Squirming in his seat trying to find words to express the feelings, he finally admits "I am a perfectionist. I'd like to change some stuff.' But as with any writer involved in their work, no matter how good, nothing is ever right.

Parkin, seeing Rogers discomfort, at the birth of his creation says, "I want you to be happy with it. It is the whole reason I'm doing it."

Maybe not the whole reason. Rogers is a very talented writer. To wit, from the play, "Except for homicidal violence and lust, creativity is the only pure thought."

LEN LY / Valley Star

ALL THAT JAZZ — Valley's studio jazz band practices for their Oct. 24 concert in Monarch Hall.

'Truth' makes music

By RENEE NICITA
Staff Writer

Q: Let's start with your names and what you do.
Andy: Andy Tomasulo, bass guitar.
Tommy: Tommy Daley, guitar.

Q: Where are you from?
A: Buffalo, New York.

Q: How did you meet?
A: Well, Tommy, Rich [Sacco, drummer] and I grew up together.

Q: How did you start the band?
A: Tom, Rich and I moved here from Buffalo at separate times. After a year of us doing our own thing, we met up and found Darrell [Roberts, vocalist].
T: Actually, some psycho chick managed to get our number to Darrell.
A: That's all you need to know because the rest of the story is too long.

Q: How did you come up with the name Truth or Dare?
A: Darrell, our lead singer, thought of it.

Q: Who are your biggest influences in your lives and careers?
A: My friends, my family and my favorite bands, such as Rush, Black Sabbath, Pink Floyd and Iron Maiden.
T: I'd have to say Led Zeppelin, Ozzy and especially Randy Rhoades.

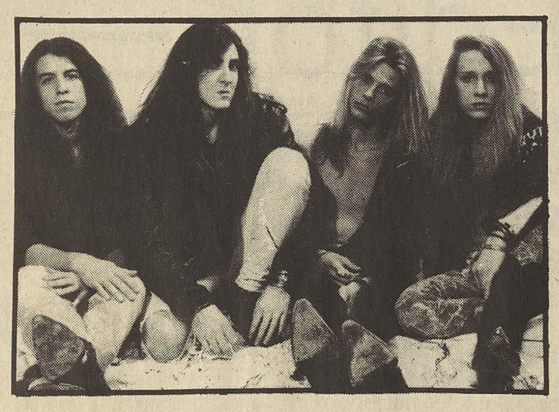
Q: What is your next step? What are you going to do in the future?
A: Our main goal is to be the best band we can be.
T: Hopefully, a record deal will eventually follow.

Q: What are some of the titles of your songs?
A: We're most excited about our new material. Some titles are "Toy Box," "On Broken Wings" and "Sugar Daddy." Some of our older songs are "A Dream of You" and "Style City."
T: I like "Say Goodbye" and "Walkin' Away."

Q: Who writes your songs?
T: Darrell writes all the chords, melodies and lyrics. Needless to say, the freedom is always there for each band member to inject a little of his own personality into each song.

Q: What is your philosophy on life?
T: Live each day as if it were your last.
A: I believe you should do whatever you want to in life, even avoid conformity if that's what it takes.

Q: What do you do in your spare time?
A: I always like to play bass whenever I can. I like to read on occasion. I ride my bicycle frequently. I also enjoy collecting CD's and comic novels.
T: Lately I've been enjoying working out and playing guitar as often as possible. I enjoy collecting various...
A: Junk.



Review

There was a crowd of screaming girls waiting for the band Truth or Dare outside the Roxy in Hollywood on Sept. 21.

The band took the stage and opened with their energetic "Toy Box" which got the crowd going.

Following the opening, bassist Andy Tomasula captured the group with an astonishing groove tune, "Style City."

Afterwards, vocalist Darrell Roberts proved his writing ability as the band debuted three new songs: "SugarDaddy," "Bringing Me Down" and "On Broken Wings." The songs appeared to become instant hits with all watching because of the band's enthusiasm for their new material.

The crowd went wild as drummer Rich Sacco pounded his skins when the band played two of their older songs; one was a ballad entitled "A Dream of You," the other a headbaniging tune, "Young and Rejected."

The band left the stage and left the crowd screaming for more, then Truth or Dare ran back out. For their encore, the band blasted out an astronomical cover of Metallica's "Enter Sandman," which included guitarist Tommy Daley overtaking the number. Despite technical difficulty during the song, the band sounded incredible.

Truth or Dare has a lot of potential which will take them far if they continue striving for success.

—Compiled by Renee Nicita

No more encores

Tyrrell's Tirades

By SUSAN M. TYRRELL
Entertainment Editor

This week I'm breaking my self-imposed tirade rules and concentrating on something other than television—theater.

According to the last census, Los Angeles is now the largest city in the nation. Even though the figures are being heavily disputed, the fact remains, whether we have a few thousand people more or less than New York City, we are an extremely large city.

Unfortunately, if a census on cultural activities were taken, we would rank pretty low.

And we just got lower.

Sunday night the Los Angeles Theatre Center (LATC) closed.

This is occasion for mourning.

Los Angeles should have theater that rivals New York City. The theater in this city can't even rival Chicago, a significantly smaller city.

I don't mean the quality of Los Angeles theater is bad, for the most part it's terrific, there's just not enough of it. Now there's less.

For six years LATC brought entertainment in the form of revivals of great plays and innovative new plays. Now it's dead.

Each newscast gave it a few seconds of airtime. Each newspaper some stories. But it came down to another budget cut affecting another Los Angeles organization.

It wasn't just another organization, though. LATC was a quality theater company. We didn't just lose one theater—we lost four. LATC was a four-stage complex.

What's even sadder is that no one seems completely sure of the cause of LATC's demise. Some say it was the locale, bordering Skid Row. Others say it was mismanagement.

One newscast summed it up "Some say Southern Californians are just not theater-goers.

How appalling.

City of Angels, which won numerous Tony Awards in 1990, subtly slid into the Shubert Theater in June with an indefinite run as the plan. It's closing at the end of this month and embarking on a national tour where it will travel to places with receptive audiences.

City of Angels is an original, lively, clever production with a superb cast and the most ear-grabbing enjoyable songs since the classic Broadway shows of the 40's, where this show is set.

But the Shubert had trouble filling the theater each night. Even though the show debuted with much of the original New York cast who won Tony's.

This is theater in Los Angeles—and it is sad.

Perhaps funding and reorganization will someday revive LATC. Until then, my deepest sympathies are with everyone involved in this great loss.

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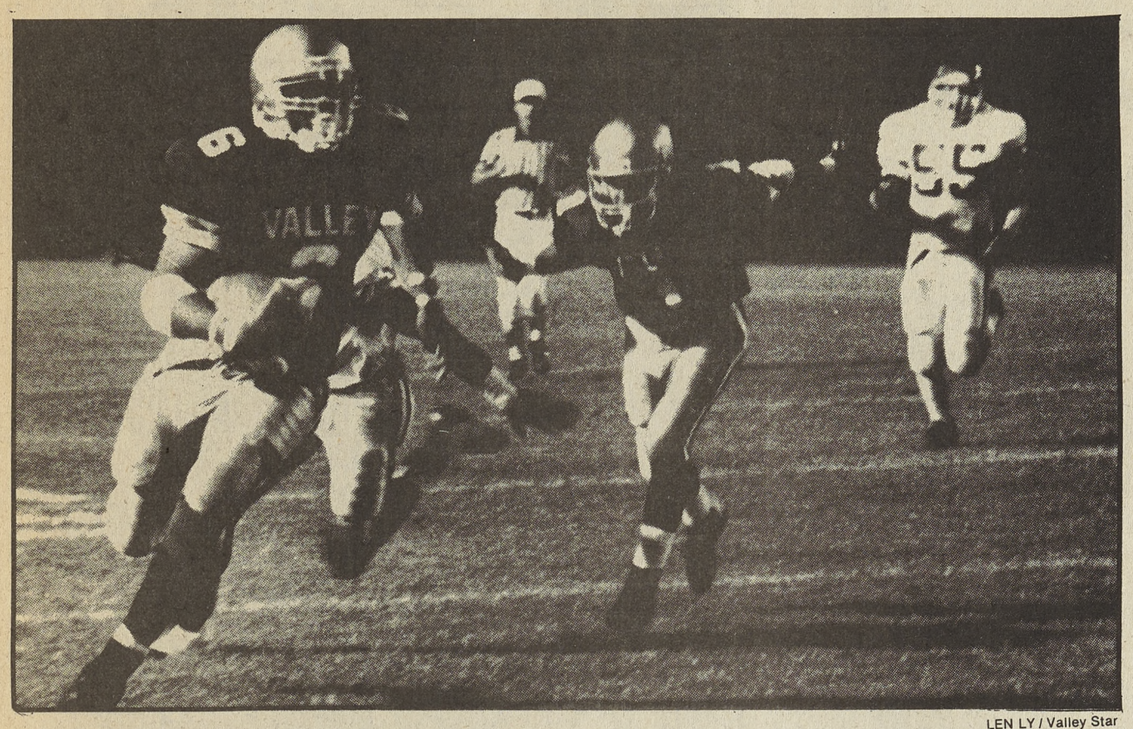


LEN LY / Valley Star

CAN'T TOUCH THIS — Nigél Bostic breaks for a 34 yard gain with Glendale's Vance Mitchell on his tail with 2 minutes left in the third quarter. Nigél also caught one touchdown pass

Valley snags victory

By JENNIFER L. CASE
Sports Editor

In the final 30 seconds of the game against Glendale , Sophomore kicker Cuneyt Karacuha broke the 17-17 tie to give Valley it's second consecutive victory last Saturday in Monarch Stadium.

The Glendale Vaqueros, last year's WSC Northern Division Conference Champions hit hard, but weren't able to snatch the win from Valley.

Glendale took the lead early with a touchdown, until running back Randolph Brown ran the ball 11 yards in the third quarter to even up the score, 7-7.

Wide receiver Terrance Brown was denied a touchdown midway through the third quarter when it was nullified by a holding call.

Valley was forced to punt, when Karacuha booted Valley into the lead with a 24-yard field goal.

Defensive back Edward Jones made an interception and was also denied a touchdown on a clipping penalty.

The next play, Valley running back Nigél Bostic marched a 28-yard pass to the end zone putting Valley ahead 17-7.

Valley quarterback Chris Godomski went down just before halftime with a strained ligament in his shoulder.

In the fourth quarter Vaquero fullback Rafik Thorossian pushed forward to score leaving Glendale at 17-14, while Vaquero kicker Jason Jones evened up the score with a field goal.

Four plays later, Karacuha pushed Valley over the top to pull a 20-17 win from winless Glendale.

"It was a hard fought game with a lot of mistakes and turnovers," Coach Jim Fenwick said.

"It was an incredibly hard game," Randolph Brown said. "It was a close hard-hitting game."
Incidentally, R. Brown was named Player of the Week.

With Godomski injured, Mike Wynn is set to start Saturday in the game against Compton.

Monarch Calendar

Oct. 18 — **Water Polo**
Valley vs. Santa Monica
3:30 at Valley

Oct. 18 — **Cross Country**
Valley vs. Cuesta
3:30 (women's) at Cuesta
4:15 (men's) at Cuesta

Oct. 19 — **Football**
Valley vs. Compton
7:00 at Valley

***Editor's note:* One out away from a trip to the World Series last night, Atlanta forced the Pirates to a seventh game showdown to take place tonight. Atlanta's 21-year-old southpaw Steve Avery didn't allow anyone to second base and recorded eight strikeouts in the game.

Brown makes a splash

● Player Robert Brown leads the team in goals.

By VLADAN HOLEC
Staff Writer

Robert Brown, who was named Most Valuable Player of the Year last year, has scored more goals this season than anybody else in the Southern California College Water Polo League.

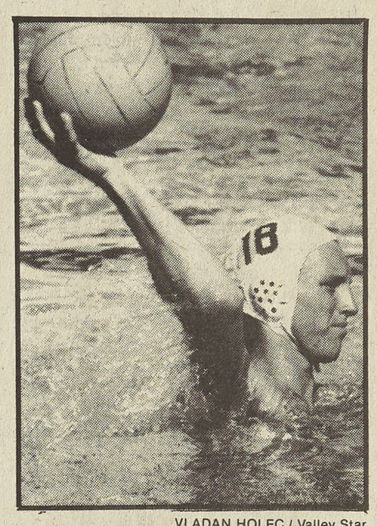
Brown, who scored a hefty 50 goals this year, has been with the Monarchs since 1989.

Profile:

"Even though he does not appear big enough for such a heavy hitter, he's one of the best players I've had in 20 years. They [opposing teams] cannot stop him even with the two men they put on him,"said water polo coach Bill Krauss. "His speed makes up for the mass he's lacking."

Brown was born in Las Vegas in 1971. His grandparents taught him how to swim when he was 16-months-old, and he has swam ever since. He was five-years-old when he won his first trophies competing in all styles 50 and 100-yard races.

He moved to Los Angeles in 1983 and swam for a while at Glendale's YMCA. Then, at Burbank High School, coaches Sergio Cervantes and Carlo Stiga introduced him towater polo. Soon after, he earned



VLADAN HOLEC / Valley Star

Robert Brown

the First Team All League.

He joined Valley's Monarchs in the fall of 1989. In 1990, he earned All Southern California Water Polo Team and was named Most Valuable Player of the Year.

Brown said he attributes some of his success to Krauss.

"Bill changed my game a lot," Brown said. "He made me a much smarter player."

"Robert is more patient now and a better passer," Krauss corroborated. They both praised the rest of the team as well.

Brown's biggest desire is to beat Cuesta College's [in San Luis Obispo] water polo team, the present champions in the college league.

For his future plans, he would like to be a police officer. He wants to settle down in a few years, and wants to have a family.

"I always wanted to be in law enforcement. I find danger, the uncertainty of what may happen on the job exciting," Brown said about policework.

Brown is a sophomore, and is still undecided about a major. He believes success is "being the best you can in what you want to be.

"[Success is also] attacking and executing your goals and being happy."

Water polo sinks

Cuesta stole a win from Valley's water polo team last Friday 10-9 in the closing seconds of the game, to lower their record to 11-7-3 for the season.

Valley is now in second place in the Western State Conference with a (2-1-0) record.

Valley's Robert Brown was a one-man gang against Cuesta, tallying five goals to raise his season total to 68, tops in the league.

Cuesta's Bricker scored four times but Wells, another Cuesta player, scored with 10 seconds left in the game.

Bill Krauss said: "We really played well but not well enough to win. We played well defensely."

Robert Brown has scored 68 goals this season in 21 games. This places him sixth on the all-time list for goals in one season.

Last year he tallied 70 goals in 24 games, and by the time he finishes the season, he could be a few goals shy of second place. His total goals add up to 138 goals in 1990 and 1991.

In addition, he is third on Valley's all-time list for water polo goals. Second place is held by Cam Mersola with 173 goals (1981-82).

— Compiled by Abram Morrison

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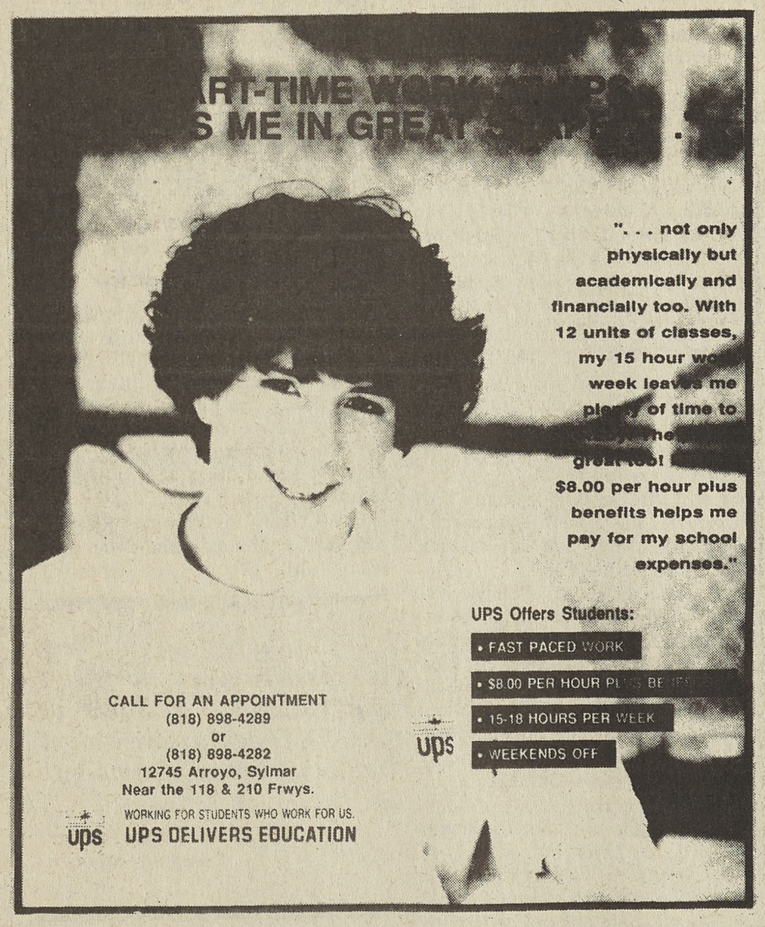
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Asbestos removal tears up library

By SAMANTHA TANSKY
Staff Writer

An elaborate asbestos removal project, remembered most for its numerous snags and delays, may have caused extensive damage to the library's interior—damage that school administrators have done little to remedy—alleged Head Librarian David May.

Calling the library's current condition "crappy," May blamed last fall's asbestos abatement in the library for ongoing problems, including a buckling floor, discolored walls, stained lighting fixtures and an increased number of leaks. Without a technical background, he said he was unable to offer anv definitive proof to help his claims.

"All I can say is we didn't have the problems before the removal project and we have the problems now that everything's done," he said. "The problems started immediately after the project."

May added he had met with Building and Grounds Administrator Dave Ogne and Vice President of Administration Mary Ann Breckell to discuss his allegations in early June. He also submitted work orders to Breckell's office but said he is still waiting for repairs to be done.

Breckell said she had not heard about any current damage that had been traced to P.W. Stephens, the contractor on the project.

"Before we signed off that the contractor could get his final payment, all the water damage was taken care of," she said. "Whether some floor tiles popped up after that because there was moisture underneath them, I really don't know. It could be. I don't know."

Lonnie Briggs, the branch manager for P.W. Stephens in the City of Industry, said: "I know nothing about what you are speaking of. I am unaware of any damage."

May insisted he had informed the appropriate people of the problems plaguing the library. He said after the asbestos had been removed and the protective plastic taken off the floor last fall, he surveyed the building with the contractor and Nader Farnoush, the district inspector who oversees all asbestos removal projects at the nine community colleges in the Los Angeles Community College District.

But like Briggs, Farnoush said he was not aware of any damage as a result of asbestos removal.

May did not understand why so many officials said they had no knowledge about the library's present condition.

"I walked through the building on a number of occasions with the district inspector and the contractor," he said. "You would just walk over a number of tile areas and you could feel that tiles were loose underneath your feet. I pointed this out, particularly the bad area we have right now. I said, 'I think these tiles are loose.' But what do I know? I'm only a librarian."

as•bes'tos, n. — a silicate of calcium and magnesium, incombustible and a non-conductor of electricity. Used as fireproofing material for buildings, safes, etc.

If asbestos is inhaled or absorbed through the skin, it can lead to *asbestosis*, a scarring of the lung tissue. Half of asbestos victims eventually die of lung cancer.

May took a slow, circular walk around a section of the library, pointing out areas of disrepair along the way. First, he motioned toward the lighting panels suspended on the ceiling of his office.

"There are a number of these panels with water spots on them. They were never cleaned or taken care of," he said. He said contractors use water to wet down asbestos in order to prevent the fibers from flying around.

Next, he pointed to his office walls, blue but covered with yellowish-brown stains. May blamed the discoloration on an adhesive the contractor utilized to attach plastic sheets to the walls.

Leaving his office, May moved toward the card catalog. He explained that one leak had sent water droplets dripping on to the catalog during the last winter's rains. Another leak, he said, had forced him to move some study tables during the rainy season.

The librarian was also disturbed about the state of the ceiling. Some of the tiles, he complained, were loose and needed painting.

But May's main concern was the floor. "There are a number of floor areas where tiles are coming up," he said.

"This is a minor inconvenience until somebody stumbles and hurts himself," he said.

Come early November, it will be a year since P.W. Stephens completed the project, which entailed ripping out ceiling tiles and cleaning out asbestos-containing material from above the library ceiling. The project caused a furor on campus when delays closed the library for almost half a semester.

"They [the administration] could have held the contractor more accountable for cleaning up a lot better," May said. "But there is a lot of politics involved when you have a library of a college closed for half a semester. They had a lot of pressure to get the library open."

"If they had waited and not signed off until the contractor had done some significant clean-up, it may have delayed opening a while longer," May explained.

Faculty Senate President Jack Sterk alluded to the intense pressure to open the library in a Nov. 8, 1990 interview with the *Valley Star*. "It is a fact that the chancellor [Donald Phelps] called Mary Ann Breckell and told her to do whatever was necessary to open the library because he wanted it open," he said.

But the question of whether the contractor should have had to make repairs hinges on the question of whether its work was the source of the library damage.

Building and Grounds Administrator Ogne did not think P.W. Stephens was necessarily the source of trouble.

Any deteriorated areas in the library "weren't accepted by the district as completely blamable on asbestos removal."

Ogne said poor conditions were a part of a building's aging process although he admitted the library's conditions "appeared worse after removal." Problems just "became more evident," he said.

Supervisor of Heating and Ventilation Robert Domin, who acted as a liaison between the college and the contractor, said he thought P.W. Stephens did an exemplary job.

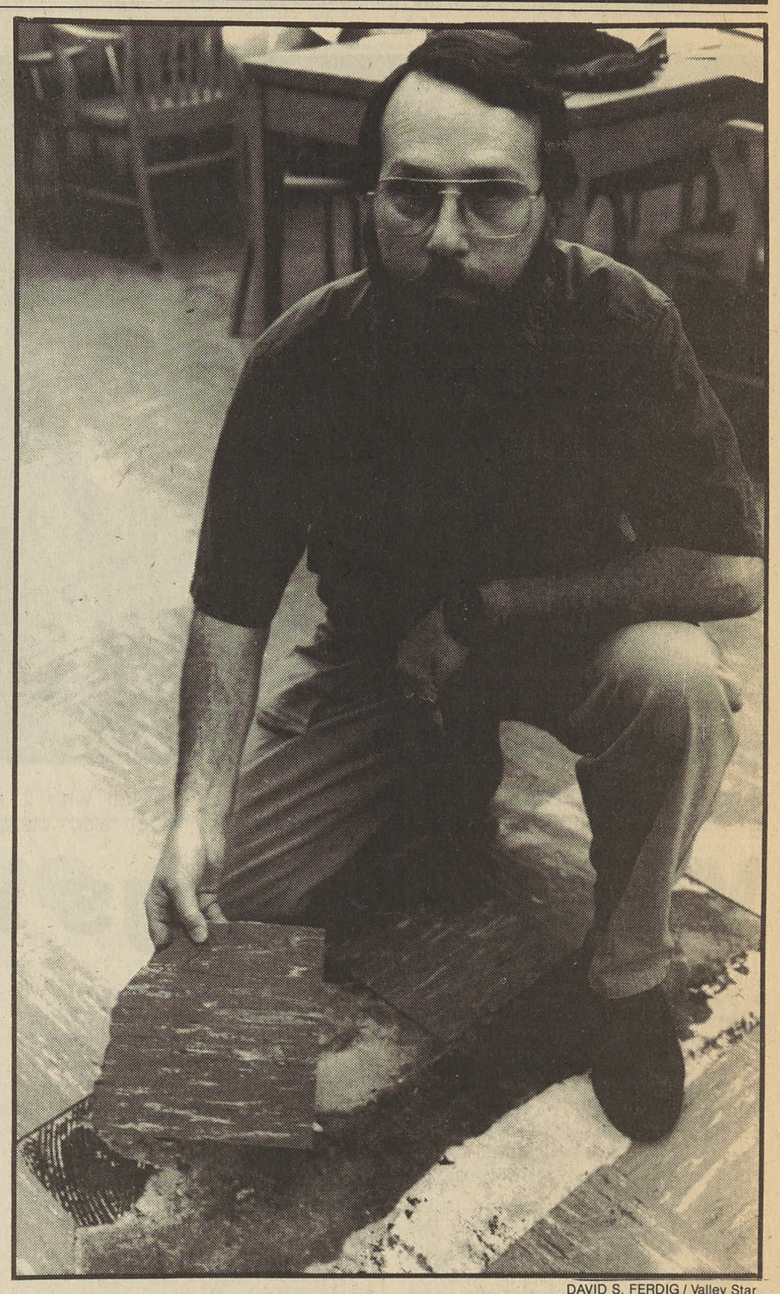
"There were so many other problems the contractor had nothing to do with," he said. He dismissed allegations that P.W. Stephens left the library in need of repair.

At this point, May said he no longer cared who or what was responsible for the loose tiles, leaks and stains. He only wished they had been fixed.

"The number one priority should be to take care of all the floor tiles. They need to be replaced," he said.

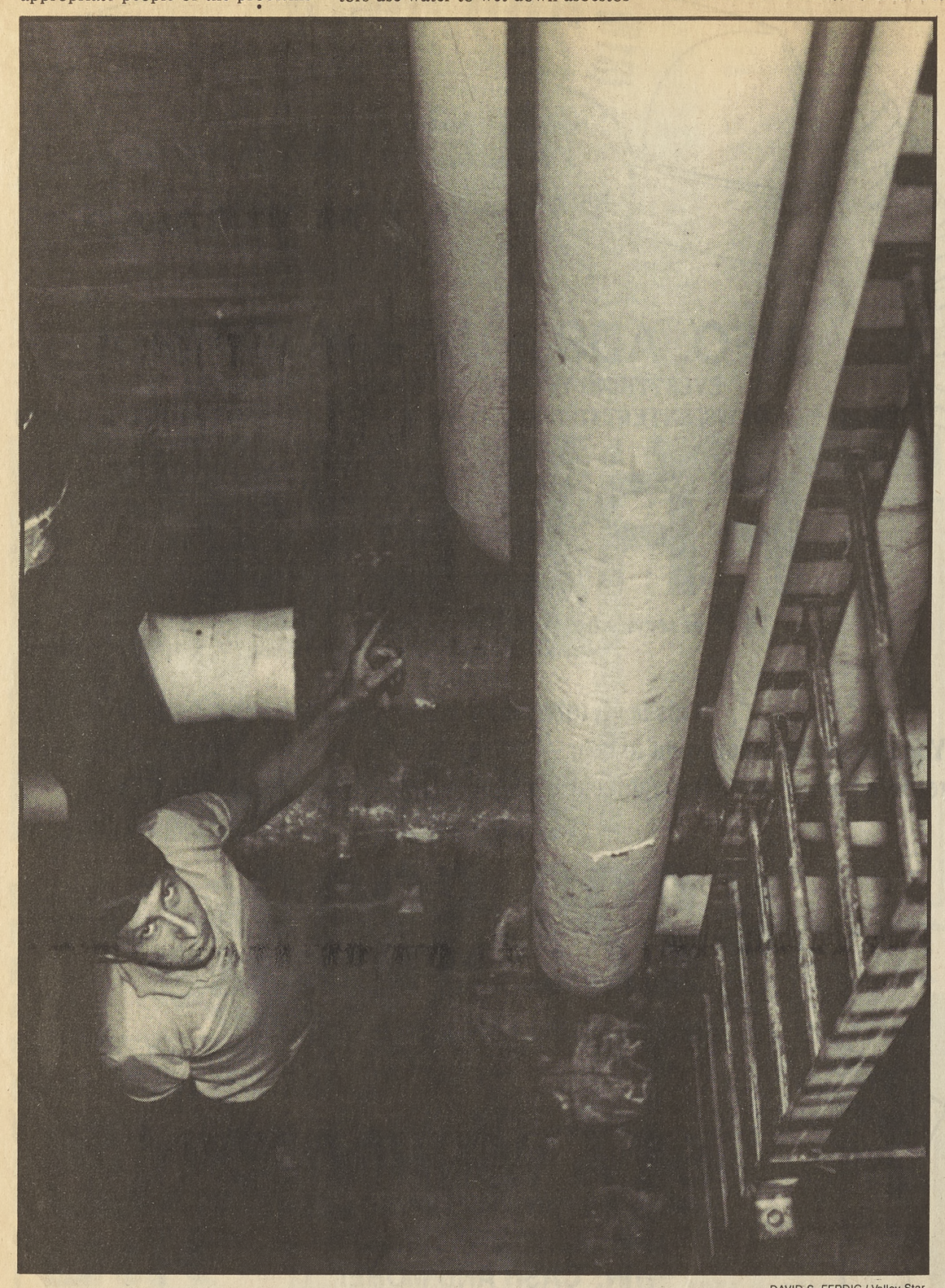
May's frustration at not seeing the library repaired changed to reluctant acceptance. "It bothers me that the place looks like crap in general, but when you consider all the other things that need basic repair on campus, it's understandable the library is a low priority."

A Valley employee for 17 years, May also said it would not be surprising if the library's problems remain neglected for years. "I've been working for eight years to get the school to put better lighting in the library," he said. "Eight years ago they took out over a third of the lighting, ostensibly to save energy. So one year or less than a year for problems with flooring doesn't seem a great deal to me."



DAVID S. FERDIG / Valley Star

UPROOTED — Head librarian David G. May displays water-damaged tile flooring in the north study area. The tiles were damaged from water that was used to clean out asbestos which leaked under plastic tarps.



DAVID S. FERDIG / Valley Star

MAKING A POINT — Bob Domin, supervisor of heating and ventilation, points to which insulated pipe was abated of asbestos, (vertical pipe closest to wall). Other pipes are insulated with fiberglass. The pipes carry steam under campus buildings to heat them during the five months that the heat is turned on.

Asbestos abatement

Was it necessary?

News analysis

By SAMANTHA TANSKY
Staff Writer

A new study, commissioned by the federal government, concludes that intensive asbestos removal programs in public buildings may be unnecessary and can be a dangerous practice.

A spokeswoman for the Environmental Protection Agency said encapsulating asbestos is often better than removing it.

In 1989, the district hired CTL Environmental Services to complete a comprehensive asbestos survey at Valley. CTL's inspectors assessed the amounts of asbestos in buildings and the condition in which the asbestos was found. The survey, reportedly the length of many encyclopedias, has since disappeared. Officials at Valley and the district said they could not find it.

But according to Valley administrators, much of the asbestos discovered on campus was in good condition. Mary Ann Breckell, vice president of administration, said it was neither flaking off nor did air samples taken by an outside firm yield results of any consequence.

In 1989 inspectors found pieces of asbestos flaking off in the planetarium, Domin said. Declaring an emergency situation, Valley officials closed the planetarium for two weeks. The situation was so bad, he said, only one out of 10 contractors were willing to risk removing the asbestos.

"But that was the only serious problem," Domin emphasized again.

Most recently, the dance studio in the women's gym and an area underneath the upstairs patio of the Campus Center underwent asbestos removal.

According to Breckell the project, which began on June 26 and was completed in mid-July, was not initiated because a health risk was present. She stressed emphatically that the levels of asbestos found in the air were below government standards. Why then was it removed? Because "it was there," she said.

Building and Grounds Administrator Dave Ogne expressed some concern over this apparently unwritten policy that all asbestos, even in good condition, should be removed if the funds are available. He agreed with the theory, embraced by many governmental agencies, that it might be safer to leave the fibers undisturbed. He even wondered whether the material used to replace asbestos might prove someday to be more harmful than the substance removed.

Cal/OSHA spokesman Richard Stephens explained that "the problem with asbestos is when it becomes friable, which means it either becomes airborne or has the potential to become airborne, when you breathe it in is when it's hazardous. If it's well-encapsulated, well-sealed, it's not hazardous. It could be that it's better to leave it alone rather than start messing with it."

"If it [asbestos] is well-encapsulated, well-sealed, it's not hazardous. It could be that it's better to leave it alone rather than start messing with it."

— Cal/OSHA spokesman, Richard Stephens

Ogne said much of the asbestos removed on campus was encapsulated and had been there "40 years, undisturbed." He later said, "I couldn't say there was no incidence of flaking."

side. But the report has been criticized because part of its funding came from asbestos manufacturers and the real estate industry.

Robert Grabski, the district's director of facilities planning and development, said he thought the district was following an EPA regulation that required schools to have asbestos inspections and to devise management plans detailing how they planned to deal with the asbestos, if any was found.

But, according to three EPA spokespeople, that regulation only covers kindergarten through 12th grades.

Grabski also said the district, in planning to eventually rid its schools of all asbestos, was merely following state guidelines. Art Johnson, who works in the State Chancellor's Office of the Community Colleges and decides which schools will get funds for asbestos removal, said he knew of no such state guidelines. Neither Cal/OSHA nor the EPA require that asbestos, in a harmless condition, be removed.

Ogne concurred: "Money is available for removal. It would be foolish for the district not to use it."

Johnson explained he directed the colleges to prioritize their asbestos from severe to moderate to minor. With the state strapped for money, he said he could only dole out funds for severe problems. That is why he was surprised to hear his office gave Valley College $680,000 for what one school official deemed a "minor situation."

Valley's Heating and Ventilation Supervisor Robert Domin suggested that Valley and the district made the asbestos problem sound worse than it was in order to obtain what little funding was available and to edge out schools competing for that money. He said all the colleges probably made their situations sound worse.

"They [the state] may see only what [schools] want them to see," he said.

Responding to Domin's suggestion, Johnson said: "It's unfortunate if the LACCD misrepresented itself. I take the word of the district. If the asbestos was in better condition, I couldn't be the judge of that. All I can do is judge it by what they sent on paper."

Grabski was unavailable for comment. Breckell said she knew nothing about it.